

**Status of All Claims in the Application:**

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[17]] 44 further comprising the step of removing the deformed game piece from the game.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[17]] 48 wherein the step of engaging the game pieces occurs when the first game piece occupies the same designated position as the second game piece.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[17]] 44 wherein the game is played by a first player and a second player, and wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes the first player and the second player moving the engaged game pieces to cause the deformation in one of the game pieces.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[17]] 44 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes rotating one of the engaged game pieces relative to the other engaged game piece.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[17]] 44 wherein the step of moving the first game piece includes providing a first break-off key, and the step of moving the second game piece includes providing a second break-off key.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[17]] 44 further comprising the steps of the first player providing a first set of game pieces that includes the first deformable game piece and the second player providing a second set of game pieces that includes the second deformable game piece.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[17]] 48 wherein the step of providing a first set of game pieces includes selecting one of the game pieces of the

first set to be a first king, and wherein the step of providing a second set of game pieces includes selecting one of the game pieces of the second set to be a second king.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 further comprising the steps of arranging the game pieces from the first set on the playing surface and arranging the game pieces from the second set ~~along~~ on the playing surface.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 further comprising the step of the alternately moving one of the game pieces from the first set and moving one of the game pieces from the second set.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 further comprising the step of engaging one of the pieces from the first set with one of the pieces from the second set whenever one game piece from each set occupies the same designated position on the playing surface.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of the first player winning the game by engaging and deforming the second king with one of the game pieces from the first set.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[17]]~~ 48 wherein the step of providing the first set of game pieces includes providing game pieces that each has a specific pattern of movement.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein the step of providing the second set of game pieces includes providing game pieces that each has a specific pattern of movement.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[17]]~~ 48 wherein the step of providing a first set of game pieces includes providing five game pieces, and wherein

the step of providing the second set of game pieces includes providing five game pieces.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 56 further comprising the step of removing the deformed break-off key from the game.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 58 wherein the step of engaging the break-off keys occurs when the first break-off key occupies the same position as the second break-off key.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 56 wherein the step of moving the engaged break-off keys includes two of the players moving the engaged break-off keys to cause the deformation in one of the break-off keys.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 56 wherein the step of moving the engaged break-off keys includes rotating one of the engaged break-off keys relative to the other engaged break-off key.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 56 further comprising the steps of the first player providing a first set of break-off keys that includes the first break-off key and the second player providing a second set of break-off keys that includes the second break-off key.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 58 wherein the step of providing a first set of break-off keys includes selecting one of the break-off keys of the first set to be a first king, and wherein the step of providing a second set of break-off keys includes selecting one of the break-off keys of the second set to be a second king.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38 further comprising the steps of

arranging the break-off keys from the first set on the playing surface and arranging the break-off keys from the second set along the playing surface.

40. (Original) The method of claim 39 further comprising the step of the alternately moving one of the break-off keys from the first set and moving one of the break-off keys from the second set.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40 further comprising the step of engaging one of the pieces from the first set with one of the pieces from the second set whenever one break-off key from each set occupies the same position on the playing surface.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41 further comprising the step of the first player winning the game by engaging and deforming the second king with one of the break-off keys from the first set.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 58 wherein the step of providing a first set of break-off keys includes providing five break-off keys, and wherein the step of providing the second set of break-off keys includes providing five break-off keys.

44. (New) A method for playing a game with a first player, the method comprising the steps of:

- moving a first deformable game piece along a playing surface having a plurality of designated positions;

- moving a second deformable game piece along the playing surface;

- engaging the first game piece with the second game piece when the game pieces occupy the same designated position as one another on the playing surface; and

- moving the engaged game pieces relative to each other to cause a deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

45. (New) The method of claim 44 wherein the step of moving the first deformable game piece includes the playing surface having a central row of designated positions, the central row being centrally positioned on the playing surface.

46. (New) The method of claim 44 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes causing a temporary deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

47. (New) The method of claim 44 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes causing a permanent deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

48. (New) A method for playing a game with a first player and a second player, the method comprising the steps of:

- the first player providing a set of game pieces that includes a first deformable game piece;

- the second player providing a set of game pieces that includes a second deformable game piece;

- moving a first deformable game piece along a playing surface having a plurality of designated positions;

- moving a second deformable game piece along the playing surface;

- engaging the first game piece with the second game piece; and

- moving the engaged game pieces relative to each other to cause a deformation in one of the engaged game pieces.

49. (New) The method of claim 48 further comprising the step of removing the deformed game piece from the game.

50. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the game is played by a first player and a second player, and wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes the first player and the second player moving the engaged game pieces to

cause the deformation in one of the game pieces.

51. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes rotating one of the engaged game pieces relative to the other engaged game piece.

52. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the step of moving the first game piece includes providing a first break-off key, and the step of moving the second game piece includes providing a second break-off key.

53. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the step of moving the first deformable game piece includes the playing surface having a central row of designated positions, the central row being centrally positioned on the playing surface.

54. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes causing a temporary deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

55. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes causing a permanent deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

56. (New) A method for playing a game with a first player and a second player, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first break-off key that moves along a playing surface having a plurality of designated positions;

providing a second break-off key that moves along the playing surface;

engaging the break-off keys when the break-off keys occupy the same designated position as one another on the playing surface; and

moving the break-off keys relative to each other to cause a deformation in one of the break-off keys.

57. (New) The method of claim 56 wherein the step of providing a first break-off key includes the playing surface having a central row of designated positions, the central row being centrally positioned on the playing surface.

58. (New) A method for playing a game with a first player and a second player, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first set of break-off keys including a first break-off key that moves along a playing surface having a plurality of positions;

providing a second set of break-off keys including a second break-off key that moves along the playing surface;

engaging the break-off keys; and

moving the break-off keys relative to each other to cause a deformation in one of the break-off keys.

59. (New) The method of claim 58 further comprising the step of removing the deformed break-off key from the game.

60. (New) The method of claim 58 wherein the step of moving the engaged break-off keys includes rotating one of the engaged break-off keys relative to the other engaged break-off key.

61. (New) The method of claim 58 wherein the step of providing a first set of break-off keys includes the playing surface having a central row of designated positions, the central row being centrally positioned on the playing surface.